पड़ोसी क्षेत्रों को विद्युत की आपूर्ति अंतर-क्षेत्रीय पारेषण लिंकों की क्षमता के अनुरूप अधिकतम स्तर पर बनी रहेगी।

(ग) और (घ) पूर्वी क्षेत्र से कमी वाले पड़ोसी क्षेत्रों अर्थात् उत्तर-पूर्वी, पश्चिमी और दक्षिणी क्षेत्रों में विद्युत की पहले से ही आपूर्ति की जा रही है। गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान पूर्वी क्षेत्र से अन्य क्षेत्रों में विद्युत निर्यात और निकासी का ब्यौरा निम्नवत है:—

(सभी आंकड़े मि॰ यू॰ में)

क्षेत्र/राज्य	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
पश्चिमी क्षेत्र			
दमन एवं दीव			
दादरा और नगर हवेली	—	—	87.5
गुजरात	—	—	208.2
मध्य प्रदेश	—	—	904.3
दक्षिणी क्षेत्र			
आ॰ प्र॰	581.5	301.0	668.6
केरल	—	—	151.6
उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र			
अरुणाचल प्रदेश	0.4	—	—
असम	215.6	289.9	454.4
मणिपुर	67.7	82.4	—
मिजोरम	1.9	5.5	—
नगालैंड	1.2	4.7	—
त्रिपुरा	12.8	0.8	—
जोड़:	881.1	684.3	2474.6

World Bank Report on Power Projects

1622. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
PROF. RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a newsitem captioned "World Bank Report critical of India's Power Project" appeared in the Times of India, Bombay dated the 8th January, 1998; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In April, 1997, some inhabitants of the Singrauli project area of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) filed a complaint with the Inspection Panel of the World Bank at Washington alleging violation by the Bank of its policies and procedures on environment and Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) of displaced persons of NTPC projects in this region. The World Bank Board, after going through the facts, decided that an investigation should be conducted at the Bank's headquarters in Washington to determine the extent to which the bank adhered to its own policies and procedures under NTPC Power Generation Project. The Bank Management has prepared an Action Plan with NTPC to improve the implementation and supervision of the R&R and environmental aspects of the projects. This Action Plan was prepared after several visits to the project area that included consultation with the affected persons, local Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Government agencies and the World Bank. Under this programme, a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) study has been carried out with the objective of assessing the extent to which Project Affected Persons (PAPs) have been rehabilitated as per R&R policy of NTPC. The study has since been completed and an Action Plan has been drawn up to address the issue of R&R of PAPs.

In addition, an Independent Monitoring Panel (IMP) comprising, three eminent members with an Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), a Social Development Expert and a senior advocate of the Supreme Court of India as Chairperson has been constituted in November, 1997 to monitor and review the R&R programme. The IMP is visiting and is also interacting with the people at the project site.

Based on the satisfactory progress on the Action Plan in March, 1998, the World Bank has extended the loan closing date upto September, 1998.

PAPs have shifted voluntarily after accepting benefits as per R&R policy of NTPC and agreed Rehabilitation Action Plan. None of the persons has been forcefully relocated as alleged in the press report.

Updating of land records

1623. SHRI BHAGBAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the various steps taken by Government for updating and maintenance of land records in the country;

(b) the progress of updating State-wise; and

(c) the year by which it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RUAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The Government of India have been executing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes through Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment for updation and maintenance of land records in the country, namely (a) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updation of Land Records (SRA & ULR) since 1987-88, and (b) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Computerisation of Land Records since 1988-89.

(b) and (c) Some States like West Bengal have completed the revisional survey settlement operation a few years back. Some States have completed survey settlement operation in major parts of the concerned State like the States of Madhya Pradesh and Kerala. Some States like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh etc. are planning to take up revisional survey settlement operation afresh.

It is, however, quite difficult to express the status of updation of land records as it has multiple connotations and dimensions. The legal system as well as the administrative arreangement for land revenue and land records maintenance are variant in different states of the country. However, in majority of the States there is a village level revenue official, which are known as patwari, talathi, village administrative officer, etc. who have been delegated the power of constat updation of land records, correction of cadestral maps and execution of undisputed mutation. In such states the land records are available in fairly updated situation.

It is important to note that this Ministry, through its 100% grant-in-aid Scheme for Computerisation of Land Records have brought all States under its coverage and the projects are working in 528 Districts of India.

The Scheme aims at bringing the basic land records including cadastral maps into a system of constent updation on-line management of land records ensuring instant service facilities and this programme of computerisation of Land Record is expected to be completed within 9th Plan period.

Rural unemployment

1624. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the latest estimates of rural unemployment in our country as on 1st May, 1998;

(b) what steps are being taken to reduce the rate of rural unemployment; and

(c) how do our measures compare with other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The rural unemployment is estimated by Natioal Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) through its quinquennial surveys. The estimate of rural unemployment as per the latest 50th round